

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

FROM and after 1st January, 1874, the business of the undermentioned will be incorporated, and carried on under the name and style of "NEWMAN & CO."

WALTER NEWMAN,
JOHN QUITHIN,
1704 Finsbury, 1st October, 1873.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility in our firm of Mr. CHARLES WILSON MURRAY, in our firm, ceased on the 1st April, 1873.

JOHN QUITHIN,
1115 Hongkong, 1st October, 1873.

THE interest and responsibility in our firm of Mr. JOHN H. SMITH ceased on the 30th April last.

P. BLACKHEAD & CO.,
705 Hongkong, 1st May, 1873.

M. R. AD. S. CONRAD is this day been admitted a partner in our firm.

A. COFFERS & CO.,
458 Tientan, 1st January, 1873.

NOW READY.

THE HOUSEHOLD COMPANION
AND STUDENT'S FIRST ASSISTANT,
By DR. DEYAN, with many Additions, Corrections, and the Williams' Ordnance.

150 Newgate Street, 1st January, 1873.

Apply at the Daily-Press Office.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, NOVEMBER 15TH, 1873.

It is to be much regretted that during the recent extensive law reform which has taken place in the Colony, no step has been adopted with a view to a consolidation of the various local ordinances. The statutes of the United Kingdom are generally considered such as to defy the acutest lawyers thoroughly to master them, and Hongkong appears to have been anxious to follow the Home Rule in this respect, and for once at least to have thoroughly succeeded. Of all the unfortunate jumbles that have ever been made of legislation, the Hongkong Ordinance Book is probably the greatest. A glance at it will show that the same things are over and over again treated in different ordinances, and it requires the greatest care and circumspection to be sure that one gets at the right law, to say nothing of the difficulty of understanding it when one has arrived at this point. This shortcoming was partially remedied some time ago by the publication of a very excellent index, compiled by Mr. Lister, under the guidance of Judge Batt, but unfortunately this only embraces the ordinances up to 1865, and cannot, however, be relied upon as an index to existing law. It would, however, form an excellent ground work for a completion of the ordinance book to date, and it would be very desirable that some steps should be taken to re-publish the ordinances in such a form as would make them perfectly clear to the general public, and eliminate what is superfluous in them.

A good way to secure this very necessary end would be for a Commission to be appointed, composed in great part, if not entirely, of legal gentlemen, for the purpose of going thoroughly through the ordinances, and making a clear and comprehensive index to be bound together with them. It would also be well for the Commission appointed to give their opinions as to the best mode in which the work could in future be kept properly up to date, so that the general public, who have not time to be constantly consulting ordinances, may be able with a little care to make themselves acquainted with the local statutes applying to any given subject.

If a Commission were appointed in the manner above suggested, it would, of course be desirable that it should comprise gentlemen of both branches of the profession, as the Solicitors are naturally the best authorities on local law, and could give very valuable aid. As regards the actual compiling, probably no one could be found more likely to do this well than Mr. Lister, who has shown himself careful and systematic in such matters by the index which has been published, and who would doubtless be able to give valuable aid by the knowledge which he possesses as to what has already been done.

We would suggest that a Commission be formed, the members should be paid a reasonable remuneration for their services, as it can hardly be expected that work of so extremely dry and technical a character would be thoroughly performed from love of the subject. The Colony, however, need not grudge the amount which would be necessary for this purpose, as the end attained would be one, the necessity for which is daily becoming more apparent. It is perhaps hardly necessary to point out that the longer this step is deferred the more difficult it becomes to accomplish it satisfactorily, and of course the expense which will ultimately have to be incurred will be increased in proportion.

It is, therefore, earnestly to be hoped that steps will be taken without delay to supply the great want of an ordinance book, which is not far more calculated to mislead than to aid the general community in understanding the laws of the Colony.

Commissioners Parisi proceeded to Canton yesterday morning, on a visit in the southern Kowloon.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

SUPPLIED TO THE "DAILY PRESS."

LONDON, 12th November, 1873.

The Dutch Chamber has voted the Indian Budget.

FRANCE.

The Committee on the prolongation of MacMahon's term of office, voted by 5 to 7 that his powers from the voting of the Constitutional laws. The minority have refused any concessions.

Hongkong, 14th November, 1873.

MARINE MAGISTRATES' COURT.

November 14th.

BEFORE H. G. THOMAS, Esq., R.N.

THE IRISH POTATO CROP.

Charles Smith, Esq., of the British steamer *Glenlyon*, charged one of the seamen of the vessel, named John Balcher, with going on shore on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, without leave.

Complainant stated that defendant was given into custody for taking liquors on board the British steamer *Nomad*.

Defendant, who admitted having gone on board the *Nomad*, but said he threw the liquor overboard, was ordered to forfeit three days' pay.

The latest American bullet is, "Buy your drink in the garden; it will unite your grape-vine grow."

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

November 14th.

BEFORE F. W. MITCHELL, Esq.

REFUSING TO PAY CHAIR HIRE.

Charles Chambers was charged with refusing to pay chair hire, and assaulting the complainant, Cheung-kiu. Complainant deposed to taking the chair in his office from Wong-tai-fu Hotel, at 7 p.m. on the 1st instant, from the said hotel and there waiting till 10 p.m., when he asked for the hire, and the defendant endeavoured to strike him, but failed. Defendant said he was drunk, and did not know what he was doing. Fined \$1, and to pay chair-cool 50 cents.

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BILL OF EXCHANGES.

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P. BLACKHEAD & CO.,

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DRUNK.

Sarah Bennett was charged with being drunk, and refusing to pay chair hire, and assaulting the chair. Inspector King said defendant, with trepanning on the premises of Mr. Curtis, and destroying a lot of choice plants.

Complainant said he was passing near Mr. Curtis' office, and saw the defendant come down from the roof with a lot of plants and a rapping hook. He had cut them off at the root, sent to prison for 14 days.

TRESPASS.

Thomas Bennett was charged with being drunk, and refusing to pay chair hire, and assaulting the chair. Inspector King said defendant, with trepanning on the premises of Mr. Curtis, and destroying a lot of choice plants.

Complainant said he was passing near Mr. Curtis' office, and saw the defendant come down from the roof with a lot of plants and a rapping hook. He had cut them off at the root, sent to prison for 14 days.

ASSAULT.

Thomas Johnson was brought up charged with being a destitute.

Defendant said he had nowhere to go and if he had nowhere to go he would be willing to go.

His Worship said he could get his rations in the gaol, and he would be allowed to go out in the time in which he was to endeavour to find a ship.

DESTITUTE.

Thomas Johnson was brought up charged with being a destitute.

Defendant said he had nowhere to go and if he had nowhere to go he would be willing to go.

His Worship said he could get his rations in the gaol, and he would be allowed to go out in the time in which he was to endeavour to find a ship.

ASSAULT.

Charles Mullins was charged by Leong-ai-loi, with being drunk and assaulting the chair.

Complainant said the defendant came into the forecourt, and said he would turn all the Chinese out, and then beat him and pulled him out of his box.

Defendant said he had lost 50 cents and the complainant brought a lot of strangers into the forecourt, and he struck him so as to make him leave off bringing them.

Fined \$5, or 7 days imprisonment.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION.

Leong-ai-loi and Loong-potui, the second boy, were charged with the unlawful possession of a gun.

In answer to the charge, first defendant said he picked the wood up in the harbor. He had no license for his boat.

First defendant was sent to gaol for one month, and the second defendant to seven days' solitary confinement.

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Extracts.

Insurances.

THE BLOSSOM.
J. W. THIBELWALL.
When the blossom once plucked,
On the breast drops its head,
And the leaves changes
To the hue of the dead;
The heart is open,
Out how ugly 'twould see,
That blossom again,
As it was on the tree.
The winds that pass over,
Drew rock'd it asleep.
The rain and the dew
But its purity keep;
But mine the destroyer,
Drew all its tares.
It is placed on its breast,
There it withers and dies.
All its leaves doth mourn
O'er the bough it shed.
Sweet morn doth weep
Over the bough that died;
O'er drew the leaves gently,
So tenderly shed
O'er the fallen a tear!

HOW A LORD MAYOR GOT A WIFE.
In 1569, Sir William Brewster (cloth-worker) was a man, whose income is estimated at £5,000 per annum. He was living on London Bridge, and one day a rascal playing with his little daughter Anne, at one of the broad lattice windows overlooking the Thames, by accident let the child fall. A young apprentice, named Osborne, seeing the accident, leaped from a window into the fierce current below the arches, and saved the infant. Years after, many great couriers, including the Earl of Shrewsbury, came courting fair Mistress Anne, the rich citizen's heiress. Sir William, her father, said to one and all, "No; O-borne saved her, and Osborne shall have her." And so Osborne did, and became a rich citizen and Lord Mayor in 1583. He is the direct ancestor of the first Duke of Leeds. Brewster is a portrait of the brave apprentice at Kirtle House, in Yorkshire—Cassell's *Old and New London*, by Walter Thornbury.

BUTTERFLIES IN WINTER.

It is not to be expected that many butterflies will be found in October. Creatures of light, warmth, and sunshine, the rapidly closing days and the ever-increasing cold thin their numbers sadly. Still some of them are yet on the wing, among which are the latest-bred Admirals and Peacocks, which, if the season be a mild and warm one, contrive to remain on the wing until the cold weather fairly sets in. Then they betake themselves to their resting places, and in some mysterious manner contrive to defy the severest frosts. To my mind, the power possessed by a butterfly in resisting cold is a most wonderful phenomenon. The fragility of a butterfly's life is proverbial, and yet this delicate being will manage to preserve its life through the sharpest frosts, and at the summons of spring emerges in full vigour, its only anxiety being its search for a mate. Through all the months of winter it takes no food, but hangs in some secluded spot—as apparently lifeless as if it had been dead, dried, and set in a cabinet. There is only one thing that these butterflies cannot endure, they must not be exposed to the weather; for cold itself they seem to care nothing. For example, in one or two seasons we have found that the thermometer has fallen considerably below zero, i.e., more than thirty-two degrees below freezing-point. Yet, in the succeeding spring, out came the butterflies that had been hibernating since the preceding autumn, and were just as lively as if the temperature had been fifty degrees higher. But, if due of these very insects had been exposed to the weather, it would inevitably have died, even though the temperature were comparatively high.—From *The Calendar of the Months*, by Rev. J. G. Wood.

THE REV. MR. PINKNEY PURCHASES A GAME ROOSTER.

(From the *Daily News*).
Mr. Mr. Pinkney, of Slawson, bought a game rooster from a Derbyshire dealer on Saturday. Mr. Pinkney informs us that he was not aware the fowl was of the game species; he bought it because of its shapely appearance. We believe this statement, and are confident that the good people of Slawson will acquit him of all blame in the unfortunate affair of last Sunday morning, the particulars of which are as follows:

At the time the trouble commenced, Mr. Pinkney was strutting his neck, preparing to put on his vest and coat. Happening to look out of his window, he saw his new rooster and a rooster belonging to the Widow Ratiburn, squaring off in the street for a fight. Surprised and pained by this display, he immediately started out to repel the disturbance, but was too late. When he got there, a half dozen young ruffians with cigars in their mouths and evil in their eyes, had surrounded the birds which were already in the air. They soon thrust their heads out at each other, and ruffled their necks, and then danced around and struck out their spurs, and jumped tail and thrusted out their heads again. And when the two saw them they shouted out, "Hurry up, baldy (Mr. Pinkney is a little bald), or you'll miss the fun." Mr. Pinkney was incomparably shocked. It was Sunday morning, the bones of two of his dearest and several of his most prominent neighbors were in sight, and here were those roosters carrying on like mad, and a parcel of wicked and profligate boys standing around, shouting their approval and noisy betting on the result. He made an effort to secure his fowl, but it eluded him. The ruffians scattered down his face, which burned like fire, his knees trembled, and he felt as if he saw the neighbors gathering, that if the earth would only open and swallow him he could never be sufficiently grateful. Just as he attempted to catch his rooster, a rough-looking individual, with his pants in his boots, and a cap with a drawn-down fore-piece, came up, and, taking in the scene at a glance, said to the "other rooster." Fair play," shouted the new comer for the benefit of the crowd, and "don't step on the birds, old edger," for the particular benefit of Mr. Pinkney, who, crazed beyond reason, was jumping about, swinging his arms, and muttering incoherent things to the great danger of stepping on the combatants. "Good for old Pinkney's rooster," screamed the boys in delight, as that foul knuckled a handful of feathers from his opponent's neck.

"The Parson knows how to do it," said a one-eyed man gleefully. Mr. Pinkney could have swooned. "I'll go you five dollars or more," said the rooster, "if you'll knock a hole in his eye." "I'll knock a hole in his eye," said the rooster, "if you'll give me five dollars." "I'll put up for you, and you can let me have it from your donation." The clergyman groaned. "Cocked the Widdler," shouted the rough man to Mr. Pinkney, indicating that lady by a motion of his finger. Mr. Pinkney clutched it, dropping on his knees as he did so. At the same time the rough man by a dexterous move, caught the clergyman's bird, and also dropped on his knees, opposite. Just then Mr. Pinkney looked up, and there sat two of his deacons and several of the members staring down upon the scene with an expression that brought the blood to his face, and with a groan of intense pain, the unhappy man dropped Mrs. Ratiburn's fowl, and darted into the house. As soon as he recovered from his mishap, he sent in his resignation, but a critical examination had been made in the meantime, and it transpired that as far as the worthy man was concerned there was not the least blame. The resignation was not accepted.

Business Announcements.

QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.

FROM and after this date, and until further notice, a Discount of Twenty per cent. (20%) upon current local rates of Premium will be returned on Insurance against fire, effected with this Office.

EDWARD NORTON & CO., Agents.

1174, 25th June, 1872.

PHILIP LUXE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Underwritten having been appointed Agents to the above Company at this Port, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of £40,000, on Buildings, in Goods stored thereon.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIRIE & CO., Agents.

517 Hongkong, 25th November, 1868.

LONDON AND ORIENTAL STEAM INSURANCE OFFICE.

137, LEADHILL STREET, LONDON.

ESTABLISHED 1843.

This Underwriter is authorized to accept Risks on behalf of this Office, by First Class Steamers and Sailing Ships.

A. McIVER, Agent.

1st Hongkong, 1st July, 1867.

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON & GLOUCESTERSHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

FROM this date until further notice, 1% (one per cent.) upon the current local rate of Premium will be allowed upon Insurance effected with this Company.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIRIE & CO., Agents.

1195 Hongkong, 27th June, 1872.

IMPETUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

From this date until further notice, 1% (one per cent.) upon the Premium charged on all Insures effected with this Office, at Rotonda being paid by the Underwriter.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Agents.

1st June, 1873.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of China, Japan, and at Singapore.

Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance at the rates of Premium current at the above-mentioned Ports.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & CO.

1st June, 1867.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.

THE Underwriter has been appointed Agent of the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shantung, and Hainan, and are prepared to grant Insurance at Current Rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.

1st October, 1868.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World.

In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two-thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Cestibulators, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premium contributed by each, the remainder being carried to Reserve Fund.

OLYMPANT & CO., General Agents.

1st July, 1873.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

10th June, 1873.

THE Underwriter has been appointed Agent of the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shantung, and Hainan, and are prepared to grant Insurance at Current Rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & CO.

1st October, 1868.

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